Cuyahoga Valley National Park 15610 Vaughn Road Brecksville OH 44141

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## Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release - Wednesday, September 13, 2006 Lisa Petit, (330) 342-0763 Ext. 1, cell (44) 343-7151, or lisa\_petit@nps.gov

## Seeking Public Input For Preparation of a White-tailed Deer Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

**Brecksville, Ohio** - The National Park Service (NPS) has published a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended. NPS is requesting the public's input in developing a White-tailed Deer Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Cuyahoga Valley National Park. The purpose of this plan is to address the long-term management of white-tailed deer within Cuyahoga Valley National Park. The full Notice of Intent can be found on www.nps.gov/cuva.

"We have been working for many years toward the initiation of this Environmental Impact Statement," states John P. Debo, Jr. Superintendent of Cuyahoga Valley National Park. "A number of scientific studies have been conducted and monitoring programs put in place. We look forward to the publics involvement and participation in the process of developing a deer management plan."

Public participation is vital to the National Park Service planning process. Scoping is the first step to involve the public in the environmental impact analysis process. All interested individuals, organizations, and agencies are encouraged to provide comments related to a White-tailed Deer Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Cuyahoga Valley National Park between now and 7 November 2006. Comments may be submitted electronically through the Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website http://parkplanning.nps.gov/cuva or in writing to Science and Resource Management, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, 15610 Vaughn Road, Brecksville, Ohio 44141

Public open house meetings will be held on October 11, 2006 from 6 to 8 p.m. and October 12, 2006 from 2 to 4 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m. All meetings will be held at Happy Days Visitor Center, 500 W. Streetsboro Road (State Route 303), 1 mile west of State Route 8, Peninsula, Ohio 44264-9756.

CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information about the park, visit www.nps.gov/cuva/ or www.dayinthevalley.com or call (216) 524-1497 or (800) 445-9667.